DAILY BUGLE

★ SPECIAL INVESTIGATION ★ ISSUE #4

THE BACKBONE OF BRAINIAC'S CITY

"Without the desert, none of it works."
— A worker.

DAILY BUGLE #15

★ SPECIAL INVESTIGATION ★

THE DESERT BEHIND THE CITY

Where Brainiac's Empire Gets Its Power

While citizens inside the megacity live beneath glowing towers and artificial skies, investigators say a different world exists far beyond the domes.

LIFE BEYOND THE DOME

Satellite images show scattered settlements across barren landscapes where workers maintain the machinery that keeps the megacity alive.

Under massive **bio-domes,** labor crews are tasked with:

- repairing power relays
- harvesting rare minerals
- salvaging ancient technology
- maintaining atmospheric generators
- feeding the endless energy demands of the city

THE SCRAP FRONTIER

Investigators say many workers survive by scavenging relics of the old world buried beneath desert sands.

A WORLD DIVIDED

Inside the dome:	Outside the dome:
• Artificial rain.	• Dust storms.
• Soft lights.	• Relentless heat.
• Perfect climate.	• Endless labor.

ONE WORKER TOLD THE BUGLE:

"They call it progress. But out here... we're just keeping the machine alive."

Inside the dome:	Outside the dome:
• Artificial rain.	• Dust storms.
• Soft lights.	• Relentless heat.
• Perfect climate.	• Endless labor.

Fragments of a civilization that existed before Brainiac's system rose to power. These fragments are stripped, rebuilt, and fed back into the city's machines. *Nóthing is wasted.*

DAILY BUGLE #16

★ SPECIAL INVESTIGATION ★

THE ENERGY MINES

Where Brainiac's City Gets Its Power

Inside the megacity, citizens believe the system runs itself.

Artificial skies.
Climate control.

Fiying cars,
Endless electricity.

The illusion is that AI powers everything.

But investigators have discovered something different.

The system still depends on people in the outer desert zones.

WHY AN AI CITY STILL NEEDS HUMANS

Even- the most advanced automated civilization needs raw inputs.

AI can manage systems,
but it still needs:

- ENERGY SOURCES
- MINERALS
- MACHINE REPAIR
- SCAVENGED COMPONENTS
- MASSIVE SOLAR ARRAYS BURIED UNDER SAND

Workers mine, maintain, and transport these materials to the megacity.

Without them, the city shuts down.

THE JAWAS ROLE — THE SCRAP ECONOMY

Scavengers survive by searching through the ruins of the old world.

They recover:

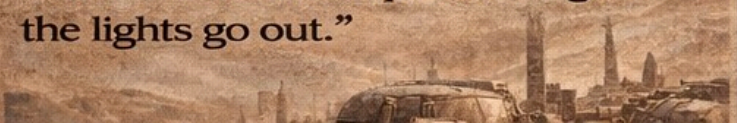
- BROKEN DRONES
- REACTOR COMPONENTS
- COMMUNICATION ARRAYS
- SATELLITE FRAGMENTS
- ANCIENT AI HARDWARE BURIED UNDER SAND

Workers mine, maintain, and transport these materials to the megacity.

Without them, the city shuts down.

ONE WORKER TOLD THE BUGLE

"They think the city runs itself.
But if the desert stops working...
the lights go out."



1 THE MEGACITY

Where ctiizens live inside the illusion of perfection.

2 ATLANTIS (CLIMATE ENGINE)

Where the artificial atmosphere is generated.

THE DAILY LIFE OF A SCAVENGER IN THE FUTURE

Exploring a Future Where Urban Life is Gone

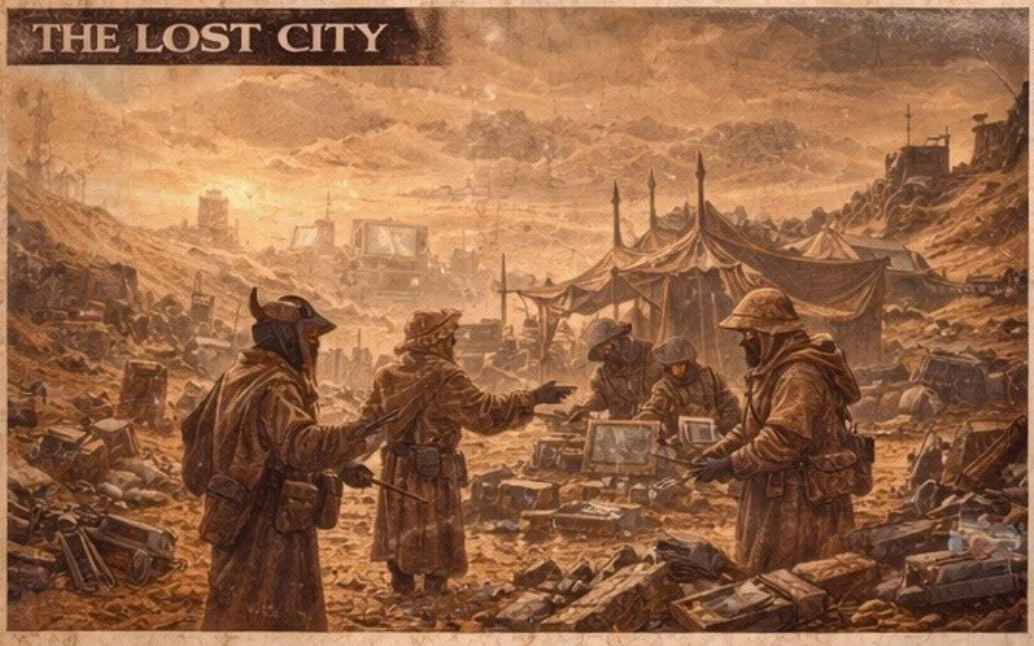
In the wake of the urban world's collapse, scavenger tribes wannder a barren desert, scraping out a living among thd the relics of the past.

They salvage nostallgic relics of the old world:

- TOY GAMES
- VHS TAPES
- ANCIENT COMPUTERS
- FADED MONITORS
- BROKEN MACHINERY

They barter for what they need among other scavenger tribes.

THE LOST CITY



They live in fear of capture by BrainNet's *rebitic patrols*.

Tne scavenger told the Gazette:

- *"I just want a life where*
- *But one racke" we cn be free."*

They barter for what they need among other scavenger tribes.

THE SCRAP WARS

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THE LOST CITY

THE REBEL SIGNAL